Title: Alleged delay in completion of works on National Highways under Golden Quardilateral Project by NHAI.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (KUTCH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the Government on one of the very important issues regarding inordinate delay in the completion of the programmes of the National Highway. All these programmes of the National Highway were envisaged by the NDA Government including the Golden Quadrilateral, East-West and South-North Corridor and Port Connectivity Projects. It has appeared many times in the newspapers also.

As per the news appeared in *The Sunday Express* of 22nd April, 2007 published from Chennai, it is reported that on an average all the 28 projects of the National Highway Authority of India are running behind the scheduled time, say by over 28 months.[r92]

As per NHAI's 8th April, 2007, Status Report, (a) one Port Connectivity Project in Andhra Pradesh and (b) two GQ Projects in West Bengal and Maharashtra are still not complete.

The National Highway Authority has shifted the goalpost saying 16 projects are now expected to be completed in next three months, but this period of three months is being repeated over and over since past some years.

To put matters in a proper perspective, most of the 28 projects of National Highway Authority of India were started either in 2001-2002, and one project was started as early as in 1999. On an average, all these projects were to be completed by the end of October last year, but they were running behind the scheduled time by over 28 months.

Golden Quadrilateral, East-West and South-North Corridor and Port Connectivity Projects envisaged by the NDA Government are the national programmes, which are to be carried out by the National Highway Authority of India but the same are languishing with inordinate delay, and that is causing unbearable burden on the nation.

I, therefore, urge upon the UPA Government to see that this national programme of building of GQ and other national highways be completed as per the scheduled time fixed for its completion. Thank you very much.